

REPLY

To: Examiner Mr. Hikota of the Patent Office

Identification of the International Application
PCT/JP03/13931

Applicant

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4. Date of Notification: September 12, 2003

5. Contents of Answers

(1) The PCT written opinion dated 09. 12. 03 (day. month. year) has been duly received from the examiner of Japanese Patent Office (IPEA/JP).

It is written in the paragraph of "2. Article and Description" in V. column of the written opinion that of the patents described in Claims 1 to 64 of the present application, those other than the patents according to claims 1 to 5, 9, 10, 51, and 64 have novelty and an inventive step.

The present applicant limits the invention described in claim 1 by adding thereto the contents of claim 60 recognized to have an inventive

step. Claim 60 is corrected according to FIGS. 18 and 19 of the present application.

Additionally, claim 2 is prepared again according to the drawings corresponding to the second embodiment and the description of the second embodiment in the specification. Moreover, claim 5 is a claim prepared by deleting the description of the control circuit of claim 6. This is corrected according to the description of the first and second embodiments in the specification and the drawings associated with these embodiments. Furthermore, claims 11 to 15 after correction are implemented simply by respectively moving claims 14 to 18 thereto. In addition, claims 16 and 17 after correction are implemented simply by respectively moving claims 12 and 13 thereto.

Moreover, claims 19 to 50 are the same as those before correction (however, errors in claim 48 and the claims on which claims 49 and 50 are dependent are corrected).

As for correction of claims subsequent thereto, the claims not recognized to have novelty or an inventive step are deleted.

(2) The present correction is achieved within a range described or disclosed in the original specification and the drawings of the present application of the international application.

(3) Therefore, the inventions described in "Claims" of the present application satisfy novelty, an inventive step, and industrial applicability and are clearly described. In this situation, it is highly appreciated that a preliminary examination report is created including a positive opinion regarding these requirements.